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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously presented) A modified pigment comprising a pigment having attached at least one organic group, wherein said organic group comprises: the reaction product of at least one (2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone group and at least one nucleophile of at least one nucleophilic polymer.

22. (Original) The modified pigment of claim 21, wherein the organic group is directly attached to the pigment.

23. (Original) The modified pigment of claim 21, wherein the (2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone group is phenyl-(2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone.

24. (Original) The modified pigment of claim 21, wherein said nucleophilic polymer is a poly(vinyl alcohol), polyalkylene glycol, polyamine, or combinations thereof.

25. (Previously presented) The modified pigment of claim 21, wherein the nucleophilic polymer is polyethyleneimine or salts thereof.

26-33. (Cancelled)

34. (Previously presented) An ink composition comprising a liquid vehicle and a modified pigment, wherein the modified pigment comprises a pigment having attached at least one organic group, wherein said organic group comprises: the reaction product of at least one (2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone group and at least one nucleophile of at least one nucleophilic polymer.

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35. (Original) The ink composition of claim 34, wherein the ink composition is an inkjet ink composition.

36-39. (Cancelled)

40. (Currently amended) A method of making a modified pigment comprising the step of reacting a pigment having attached a first chemical group with a second chemical group to form a pigment having attached a third chemical group, wherein

i) the second chemical group reacts with the first chemical group to form the third chemical group, wherein said first chemical group comprises an organic group which comprises at least one electrophile and said second chemical group comprises at least one nucleophile, or vice versa, and the nucleophile reacts with the electrophile,

ii) said pigment having attached a first chemical group is prepared by reacting a diazonium salt having the first chemical group with at least one type of pigment to form said pigment having attached a first chemical group, and

iii) wherein the first chemical group, the second chemical group, and the third chemical group each comprises at least one organic group selected from the group consisting of: acyl azides, isocyanates, ketones, aldehydes, anhydrides, amides, imides, imines, α,β -unsaturated ketones and aldehydes, alkyl halides, epoxides, alkyl sulfates, amines, hydrazines, thiols, hydrazides, oximes, carbanions, and salts thereof.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the first chemical group comprises an alkylsulfate group.

42. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein the first chemical group comprises a (2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone group.

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43. (Previously presented) The method of claim 42, wherein the first chemical group is phenyl-(2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone.

44. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein said second chemical group comprises a polymer.

45. (Previously presented) The method of claim 44, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of: a polyamine, a polyalkylene oxide, a polyol, a polyacrylate, and salts thereof.

46. (Previously presented) The method of claim 45, wherein the polymer is a polyamine.

47. (Previously presented) The method of claim 46, wherein the polymer is polyethyleneimine.

48. (Previously presented) The method of claim 47, wherein said pigment is carbon black.

49. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, wherein said pigment comprises a blue pigment, black pigment, brown pigment, cyan pigment, green pigment, white pigment, violet pigment, magenta pigment, red pigment, yellow pigment, or mixtures thereof.

50. (Previously presented) The method of claim 40, further comprising reacting said third chemical group attached onto said pigment with at least one additional second chemical group, wherein the additional second chemical group comprises at least one electrophile and the third chemical group comprises at least one nucleophile, or vice versa, and wherein the additional second chemical group comprises a polymer.

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51. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the polymer is selected from the group consisting of: a polyamine, a polyol, a polyalkylene glycol, a polyacrylate, a protein, a polyamino acid, and salts thereof.

52. (Previously presented) The method of claim 50, wherein the polymer is a polyacrylate or methacrylate.

53. (New) A method of making a modified pigment comprising the step of reacting a pigment having attached a first chemical group with a second chemical group to form a pigment having attached a third chemical group, wherein

i) the second chemical group reacts with the first chemical group to form the third chemical group, wherein said first chemical group comprises an organic group which comprises at least one electrophile and said second chemical group comprises at least one nucleophile, or vice versa, and the nucleophile reacts with the electrophile,

ii) said pigment having attached a first chemical group is prepared by a method consisting of reacting at least one diazonium salt having the first chemical group with at least one type of pigment to form said pigment having attached a first chemical group, and

iii) wherein the first chemical group, the second chemical group, and the third chemical group each comprises at least one organic group selected from the group consisting of: acyl azides, isocyanates, ketones, aldehydes, anhydrides, amides, imides, imines, α,β -unsaturated ketones and aldehydes, alkyl halides, epoxides, alkyl sulfates, amines, hydrazines, thiols, hydrazides, oximes, carbanions, and salts thereof.

54. (New) A modified pigment consisting of a pigment and at least one attached organic group, wherein said organic group comprises: the reaction product of at least one (2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone group and at least one nucleophile of at least one nucleophilic polymer.

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55. (New)

An ink composition comprising a liquid vehicle and a modified pigment, wherein the modified pigment consists of a pigment and at least one attached organic group, wherein said organic group comprises: the reaction product of at least one (2-sulfatoethyl)-sulphone group and at least one nucleophile of at least one nucleophilic polymer.